Claim 50, lines 2-3, delete "the NIK protein, isoform, analog, fragment or derivative thereof" and insert therefor --a polypeptide--;

Line 3, change "19" to --53--.

Insert new claim 60 as follows:

SUB 79

--60. An anti-sense oligonucleotide consisting of a sequence complementary to at least a portion of the mRNA encoding a TRAF2-binding polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, an amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, or the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID nO:5, said anti-sense oligonucleotide being capable of effectively blocking the translation of said mRNA.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Renumber the abstract page number "73" with --110--.

REMARKS

Claims 20-29 and 31-60 presently appear in this case. No claims have yet been examined on the merits. The application has been subject to a restriction requirement. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this restriction is hereby respectfully urged.

The examiner states that the present application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions

which are not so linked to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1:

Group I, including claims 1-16 and 30, drawn to a DNA sequence encoding a protein capable of binding to TRAF, variants and hybridizing molecules thereof, vectors and transformed cells.

Group II, including claims 17-21 and 43-49, drawn to a TRAF-binding protein encoded by said DNA, isoforms, fragments, analogs and derivatives thereof, and methods for their production and methods for screening a ligand capable of binding to said protein;

Group II, including claims 22 and 50, drawn to antibodies; and

Group IV, including claims 23-29 and 31-42, drawn to pharmaceutical compositions comprising said protein, DNA, oligonucleotides and therapeutical uses thereof.

The examiner states that the inventions do not relate to a single general inventive concept as the existence of such proteins is already known in the art. This requirement is respectfully traversed.

In order to be response, applicants hereby elect the claims of Group II, drawn to proteins, etc. However, the claims have now been amended so that they do not read on proteins already known in the art. Accordingly, the general

inventive feature of the present invention is the subject matter of new claim 51. The DNA, antibodies and pharmaceutical compositions should be examined therewith as they are based on the same general inventive feature. Because of the revised wording of the claims, the subject matter which defines over the prior art is common to all of the claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this restriction requirement is therefore respectfully urged.

The examiner states that the application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences, but the application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.821-1.825.

Applicants have deleted the previously submitted sequence listing section and replace same with the attached substitute Sequence Listing section according to 37 C.F.R. §1.821(c). Furthermore, attached hereto is a 3 1/2" disk containing the "Sequence Listing" in computer readable form in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.821(e).

Applicants have amended the specification to insert SEQ ID NOs, as supported in the present specification.

The following statement is provided to meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.825(a) and 1.825(b).

I hereby state, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.825(a), that the amendments included in the substitute sheets of the sequence listing are believed to be supported in the application as filed and that the substitute sheets of the sequence listing are not believed to include new matter.

I hereby further state, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.825(b), that the attached copy of the computer readable form is the same as the attached substitute paper copy of the sequence listing.

It is submitted that all of the claims now present in the case clearly define over the prior art and define a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of all the claims now present in the case is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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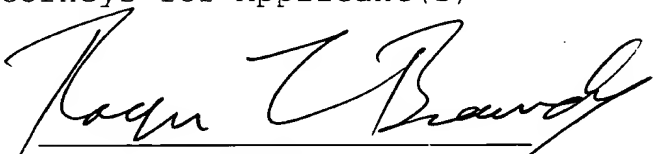
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By 
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